Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 AF-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-07 /044 W

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R 141625Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY LONDON TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5002

CONFIDENTIAL LONDON 09751

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, MARR, US, UK, CG

SUBJECT: FLIGHT CLEARANCES - ASCENSION ISLAND

REF: STATE 89098

- 1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS PARA (3) REFTEL, WE MADE APPROACH TO FCO TO REQUEST CONSIDERATION OF BLANKET CLEARANCES FOR ZAIRE RESUPPLY FLIGHTS.
- 2. LETTER FROM FCO DATED JUNE 13 PROVIDES FOLLOWING RESPONSE TO OUR APPROACH:

BEGIN QUOTE: WE CAN AGREE TO YOUR REQUEST FOR BLANKET CLEARANCE FOR USAF AIRCRAFT CARRYING NON-LETHAL MILITARY SUPPLIES TO ZAIRE TO STAGE AT ASCENSION ISLAND. WE

SHOULD, HOWEVER, APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD LET US AND ASCENSION HAVE AS MUCH NOTICE AS POSSIBLE OF SPECIFIC FLIGHTS. END QUOTE.

3. IN VIEW OF THE FACT FCO LETTER SPECIFICALLY MENTIONS "USAF AIRCRAFT," WHILE WE HAD REQUESTED BLANKET AUTHORITY FOR OPERATIONS BY "COMMERCIAL CHARTERS TO THE MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND (MAC)," WE CALLED THE DEFENCE DEPARTMENT AT FCO FOR A CLARIFICATION. IN RESPONSE, WE WERE TOLD TH CONFIDENTIAL

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UK GOVERNMENT WANTS TO AGREE WITH OUR REQUEST AND THAT SPECIFICATION OF USAF AIRCRAFT WAS NOT MEANT TO RESTRICT CLEARANCE TO THAT CATEGORY OF FLIGHT ONLY. CHARTERS OPERATED FOR MAC WOULD HAVE THE SAME AUTHORITY.

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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Subject: FLIGHT CLEARANCES - ASCENSION ISLAND

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